FARMER COMMITTEES

August 11, 1959.—Ordered to be printed

Mr. Humphrey, from the Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, submitted the following

REPORT

[To accompany S. 662]

The Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, to whom was referred the bill (S. 662) to amend section 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act as amended, to provide for administration of farm programs by democratically elected farmer committeemen, having considered the same, report thereon with a recommendation that it do pass with amendments.

IN GENERAL

This bill would amend the provisions of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, the Agricultural Act of 1954, and the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 relating to the selection and duties of local, county, and State ASC committees. As introduced it was identical (except as to effective date) to S. 1436 as that bill passed the Senate on August 8, 1958, too late for passage by the House before Congress adjourned. The committee has recommended two minor technical amendments, which do not represent substantive changes from S. 1436 as passed by the Senate and which will be explained herein following the explanation of the bill.

The committee held extensive hearings in Washington and Missouri in 1955 and 1956 in connection with S. 544, a predecessor to S. 662. Many of the provisions of S. 662 resulted from matters disclosed by these hearings. In considering S. 1436 last year the Subcommittee on Agricultural Research and General Legislation gave careful consideration to numerous suggestions made by the Department of Agriculture; and, with the technical assistance and advice of the Department, included most of them in the bill reported to the Senate, which further perfected the bill before passing it.

EXPLANATION OF THE BILL

The bill would change the law relating to the selection and duties of the farmer committees used in the marketing quota and price support programs in the following respects:

(1) All farmers within the local area (rather than program par-

ticipants only) would be permitted to vote and hold office.

(2) Voting for the local committee would be required to be by secret ballot.

(3) The local committee election would be by open meeting (whereas

regulations now also permit the use of polling places or mail).

(4) The number of members of local and county committees would be fixed by statute at three, with first and second alternates. (The statute now provides for "not more than three" local committee members, but by regulation this has been fixed at three. Alternates are provided for by regulation, so that no change from present practice is contemplated.)

(5) Elections of local and county committees would be conducted by the incumbent local or county committee, respectively. (This was the former practice, but regulations now provide for the calling of the county convention and the conduct of the local area election by

county and community election boards, respectively.)

(6) Two weeks' public notice is required for local committee elections. (Ten days' notice is now required by election instructions.)

(7) Local committee nominations would be restricted to those made from the floor. (No method of nomination is specified by statute at present and nominations are now made by community election boards and by petition in the case of elections held by mail or at polling places, and by floor nomination at meeting type elections.)

(8) Chairmen and vice chairmen would be elected by the local and county committees. (Regulations now prescribe that those receiving the highest and next highest number of votes for committee member-

ship are to be the chairman and vice chairman.)

(9) The local committee is authorized to use secretarial services furnished by the county committee, rather than the secretarial services of the county agent.

(10) Provision is made for the election of a local committee where the local area fails to elect a committee prior to the county nominating

convention.

(11) In lieu of election of the county committee at a county convention by delegates elected by farmers in the local areas (by current regulation the local committee chairmen or vice chairmen being the delegates), the bill provides for election of the county committee by the farmers in the county following a nominating convention of the local chairman or vice chairman. The nominating convention would be called by the incumbent committee, upon at least 2 weeks' notice, and would nominate one or more farmers in the county for each position as member or alternate. The incumbent committee would then publish the nominations and the time and place fixed for additional nominating petitions, give at least 15 days' notice of the election, and conduct the election by secret ballot either by mail or at polls. Each farmer in the county would be entitled to vote for any of the nominees. Ballots would be required to be preserved for such period as the Secretary may prescribe.

(12) County committee members would serve for staggered terms of 3 years, so that two experienced members would hold over each year. (At present they are all elected annually.)

(13) The county agent would be an ex officio member of the county committee (instead of secretary or ex officio member at the election

of the committee).

(14) Special elections to fill vacancies occurring in local or county committees not less than 60 days prior to the next regular election would be held in the same manner as annual elections, except that only 5 days' notice of the county nominating convention would be required. (Regulations now provide for special elections to fill local committee vacancies and special conventions to fill county committee vacancies.)

(15) The State committee would be authorized to appoint temporary local or county committee members to fill vacancies. (Regulations now provide for appointment by the State committee of "a person" to administer the programs, if the county committee member-

ship falls below two.)

(16) General responsibility for carrying out programs would be given to the county committee, who would employ a county office manager subject to standards furnished by the Secretary to serve at its pleasure and carry out the day-to-day operations of the office at its direction. (Present regulations require delegation of such responsibility to a county office manager employed by the county committee subject to standards furnished by the State committee. The language of the bill is designed to make it clear that the county committee, rather than the county office manager, is to determine the policies of the office and the manner in which they shall be executed.)

(17) The State committee would be composed of either three farmers or five farmers. (The statute now provides for not less than three nor more than five. All States now have three, except California and

Texas, which have five.)

(18) One member of the State committee (two members if the State committee consists of five members) would be appointed by the Secretary from nominees elected by county committee members. Such member or members would serve for a 1-year term, be subject to removal by the Secretary only for cause, and not be eligible to serve as chairman of the committee. (All members are now appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Secretary.)

(19) The State director of the Agricultural Extension Service, as ex officio member of the State committee, would be permitted to

designate an alternate to serve in his place.

(20) The bill specifies that the State committee may remove any local or county committee member only after (a) a majority vote; (b) furnishing him with a statement of charges; (c) advising him of his rights; and (d) giving an opportunity for a fair hearing at which, if he requests it, a representative of the Secretary is present. If further requires the State committee to furnish him with a transcript of the proceedings and provides for appeal at which all pertinent and material evidence may be presented. A suspension, pending hearing, could exceed 60 days only if the hearing were delayed at the request of the suspended committee member. (The statute now makes no provision in this regard. Regulations on this matter have been changed from time to time, the last such change having been made November 6, 1958 (23 F.R. 8775).)

(21) Consolidation of counties having little farming activity with adjacent counties would be permitted, and the election of two county committees for certain counties as provided by the act of September 2, 1957, would be continued.

(22) The Secretary would be prohibited from limiting the number of terms for which local committee members might be elected. (No

limit is currently imposed.)

(23) The requirement of section 362 of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 that a copy of the list of allotments and quotas be kept in the office of the county agent or local area chairman would be repealed since such information is readily available at the county office.

(24) Information concerning compensation of county and local committee personnel now required by section 392(b) of the Agricultural Adjustment Act of 1938 to be posted in a conspicuous place would be required, instead, to be kept available for inspection in the

county office.

The amendments made by the bill to section 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act would not be effective until January 1, 1960. This would prevent them from becoming effective during the period when elections are taking place when they might result in the invalidation of steps already taken.

THE COMMITTEE AMENDMENTS

The committee amendments are as follows:

(1) On June 25, 1959, some months after S. 662 was introduced, section 13(a) of Public Law 86-70, the Alaska Omnibus Act, amended section 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act to except Alaska from the provisions of section 8(b) relating to farmer committees. The first committee amendment is designed to preserve that exception by maintaining section 8(b) the language inserted by Public Law 86-70. The first amendment therefore does not con-

stitute any change in existing law.

(2) The bill directs the Secretary of Agriculture to utilize the ASC committees in carrying out "such other farm programs requiring dealing on individual farms as the Secretary may deem fit." provision leaves it to the discretion of the Secretary to determine in which of such other farm programs is would be fit to use the ASC committees; and therefore does not require the use of such committees for any specific one or more of "such other" programs. However, the committee was advised that some soil conservation districts were fearful that the language of the bill might be construed to constitute a directive to the Secretary to use the ASC committees to carry out functions heretofore carried out by the Soil Conservation Service. While the language of the bill should not be so construed, in order to allay any fear that such a directive might be contained in the bill, the committee recommends insertion of language expressly excluding any functions performed by the Soil Conservation Service from the provision described. This amendment would in no way affect any existing use of ASC committees or any authority of the Secretary to utilize these committees.

COST

It is estimated that enactment of the bill will not result in any substantial increase in Federal expenditure. The procedure prescribed

by the bill for community committee elections will probably result in somewhat lower Federal expenditure, while the procedure prescribed for county committee elections will result in somewhat increased Federal expenditure. The increase is expected to exceed the decrease, but the net increase is not expected to be substantial.

DEPARTMENTAL VIEWS

Last year the subcommittee which considered S. 1436 considered numerous suggestions made by the Department of Agriculture in its initial report on S. 1436 and included most of them in the bill reported by it to the full committee. Thereafter the Department reported that it would recommend enactment if the bill as modified by the subcommittee were further modified in the following additional respects:

(1) The Department recommended modification to provide that all farmer members of the State committee be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Secretary. S. 1436 was subsequently amended to provide for appointment of all such members by the Secretary. One member in the case of a three-man committee, and two members in the case of a five-man committee, however, would be appointed from panels elected by county committee members and would serve for 1 year. The other members would serve at the pleasure of the Secretary. This amendment has been preserved in S. 662.

(2) The Department recommended that the State director of the Agricultural Extension Service should not be deprived of the right to vote on the State committee. S. 1436 was subsequently amended to conform to this recommendation, and S. 662 similarly conforms to this

recommendation.

(3) The Department recommended that provisions for the selection of secretaries for the local and county committees be deleted. This

recommendation was not and has not been adopted.

The report just referred to is attached as exhibit A. Despite the fact that practically all of the Department's suggestions have been adopted, the Department has recommended against passage of S. 662 on the ground that many of its provisions are being observed in practice, and that they should be kept subject to administrative change. Your committee felt that experience under the law since 1936, and particularly the matters disclosed by the committee's hearings on S. 544, showed not only the need for making many improvements in the system but the need for prescribing such changes by law rather than leaving them to regulation. The Department's report on the current bill is attached as exhibit B.

Ехнівіт А

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Washington, D.C., May 20, 1958.

Hon. Allen J. Ellender, Chairman, Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, U.S. Senate.

Dear Senator Ellender: This is in reply to your request for a report on the modified version of S. 1436, a bill to amend section 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, to provide for administration of farm programs by democratically

elected farmer committeemen, transmitted with your letter of May

16, 1958.

This version of the bill is much more satisfactory to the Department than was the version on which we submitted a report dated May 14, 1957. However, we are particularly concerned with those provisions under which county committeemen would elect some State committeemen to serve for a definite term with removal by the Secretary only for cause.

The Department recommends that all farmer members of State committees be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Secretary as under the present law. We believe it is important that the Secretary's freedom of choice in selecting State committeemen not be restricted. The State committees are the major means through which the Secretary carries out the responsibilities for many of the agricultural policies and programs of the Congress and the Department. This necessarily means that many broad delegations of authority, both program and administrative, are made to State committees. Furthermore, State committees are the representatives of the Secretary in the general direction and supervision of the performance by the county committees and as such should be responsible to him.

In addition, we question the propriety of requiring the Department to discharge an important part of its executive function by an officer who is elected rather than appointed. We feel that the use of elected

functionaries should not be required above the county level.

At present, the State director of the Agricultural Extension Service is an ex officio member of each State committee with the power to vote. The bill provides that the State director of the Agricultural Extension Service or his designated alternate shall be an ex officio member of the State committee but without the power to vote. We believe that the Director should have the power to vote as at present. We are aware of no problems which have arisen in the past because of his having the power to vote and, in fact, such power to vote contributes to the broadness and stability of the policy decisions reached by the State committees.

We also recommend that the provisions of the bill which provide that local and county committees shall select secretaries be deleted. As a matter of practice, secretarial help is made available to the committees to the extent it is needed from among the employees of the county offices. To require that such persons be designated as secretaries of the committees appears to serve no useful purpose and to

add an unecessary administrative burden.

If the bill is modified as suggested above, we recommend its enactment.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the furnishing of this report.

Sincerely yours,

E. L. Peterson, Acting Secretary.

Ехнівіт В

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, Washington, D.C., March 20, 1959.

Hon. Allen J. Ellender, Chairman, Committee on Agriculture and Forestry, U.S. Senate.

Dear Senator Ellender: This is in reply to your request of January 26, 1959, for a report on S. 662, a bill to amend section 8(b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, to provide for administration of farm programs by democratically elected farmer committeemen.

This Department recommends against the passage of this bill.

The bill relates to the selection and operations of State, county, and community agricultural stabilization and conservation committees. It would replace the 4th through the 17th sentences of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, which deal with

this subject, and it would make several substantial changes.

Improvements in the Secretary's regulations governing ASC county and community committees and improvements in detailed operating procedures have been made within the authority of present enabling legislation to the extent that very few problems in this area of operation now are being encountered. Many of the provisions of the bill are already being observed in practice. They should not be included in law since this would tend to freeze such practices even though future experience, conditions, and programs would necessitate further administrative changes. The Department would have no objection to a 3-year staggered term of office for county committeemen to provide greater continuity and stability to committee administration.

The Bureau of the Budget advises that there is no objection to the

submission of this report.

Sincerely yours,

TRUE D. MORSE, Acting Secretary.

CHANGES IN EXISTING LAW

In compliance with subsection (4) of rule XXIX of the Standing Rules of the Senate, changes in existing law made by the bill, as reported, are shown as follows (existing law proposed to be omitted is enclosed in black brackets, new matter is printed in italic, existing law in which no change is proposed is shown in roman):

Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act

SEC. 8. * * *

(b) Subject to the limitations provided in subsection (a) of this section, the Secretary shall have power to carry out the purposes specified in clauses (1), (2), (3), (4), and (5) of section 7(a) by making payments or grants of other aid to agricultural producers, including tenants and sharecroppers, in amounts determined by the Secretary to be fair and reasonable in connection with the effectuation of such purposes during the year with respect to which such payments or grants are made, and measured by (1) their treatment or use of their land, or a part thereof, for soil restoration, soil conservation, or the prevention of erosion; (2) changes in the use of their land; (3) their

equitable share, as determined by the Secretary, of the normal national production of any commodity or commodities required for domestic consumption; or (4) their equitable share, as determined by the Secretary, of the national production of any commodity or commodities required for domestic consumption and exports adjusted to reflect the extent to which their utilization of cropland on the farm conforms to farming practices which the Secretary determines will best effectuate the purposes specified in section 7(a); or (5) any combination of the above. Clauses (1) and (2) above shall be construed to cover water conservation and the beneficial use of water on individual farms, including measures to prevent runoff, the building of check dams and ponds, and providing facilities for applying water to the land. In determining the amount of any payment or grant measured by (1) or (2) the Secretary shall take into consideration the productivity of the land affected by the farming practices adopted during the year with respect to which such payment is made. In carrying out in the Continental United States, except in Alaska, the provisions of this section in the continental United States, except in Alaska, acreage allotment and marketing quota programs, and such other farm programs requiring dealing on individual farms as the Secretary may deem fit, but not including any functions performed by the agency established pursuant to section 5 of this Act, the Secretary is directed to utilize the services of local, county, and State committees selected as Thereinafter provided. I follows:

(1) Local committees.—The Secretary shall designate local administrative areas as units for administration of the programs [under this section] described above. No such local area shall include more than one county or parts of different counties. Farmers within [any] such local [administrative] area [, and participating or cooperating in programs administered within such area, I shall elect annually by secret ballot from among their number in open meeting a local committee of [not more than] three members for such area, together with first and second alternate members who shall serve in that order in the absence of committee members. Election of local committee members and alternates for any year shall be conducted by the local committee serving at the time of such election. Public notice of such election shall be given by the then serving county committee at least two weeks prior to the date of such election. Candidates for election shall be selected only by nomination from the floor. The local committee shall elect from its members a chairman and a vice chairman. The local committee shall select a secretary and may utilize services made available by the county committee for such purpose. Failure by any local area to elect a local committee prior to the holding of a nominating convention shall not affect the annual election for the county committee, but such local area shall not be represented at the county nominating convention. The county committee elected at such election shall provide promptly for the election of such local committee by any means prescribed by regulations.

(2) County committees.—Land shall also elect annually from among their number a delegate to a county convention for the election of a county committee. The delegates from the various local areas in the county shall, in a county convention, elect, annually, the county committee for the county which shall consist

of three members who are farmers in the county. The chairmen of the local committees (or vice chairmen in the absence of chairmen) shall, in a county nominating convention, nominate annually one or more farmers within the county for each position on the county committee and for each position of alternate member on the county committee. Additional nominations may be made by petitions signed by not less than ten farmers eligible to vote. The county committee shall consist of three members. There shall also be first and second alternate members who shall serve in that order in the absence of committee members. The nominating convention shall be called by the county committee then serving, which shall give the chairman of each local committee at least two weeks notice of the date of such convention. The county committee then serving shall, immediately following such convention, give public notice of the names of the persons nominated at such convention and of the time and place fixed for the filing of additional nominating petitions and of the time and place fixed for the election, which shall be held not earlier than fifteen days following such notice. Such election shall be by secret ballot upon which the names of all of the candidates properly nominated shall appear, and shall be conducted by such committee either by mail or at one or more public polling places. Each farmer in the county shall be entitled to vote at such election, and may vote for any of the nominees named by the nominating convention or by qualified petition. The votes shall be counted by the county committee conducting the election. The ballots shall be preserved for such period as the Secretary, by regulation, may prescribe. The committee conducting the election shall certify the results of the election to the State committee. The three candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared committee members; the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes shall be declared first alternate; and the candidate receiving the next highest number of votes shall be declared second alternate. Beginning with the regular election in 1960, one member of the county committee shall be elected for a three-year term, one for a two-year term, and the third for a one-year term. In subsequent years, one member shall be elected for a three-year term to succeed the member of the county committee whose term is expiring. The county committee shall elect from its members a chairman and a vice chairman. The local committee shall select a secretary and may utilize the county agricultural extension agent for such purpose. 1 The county committee shall select a secretary [who may be the county agricultural extension agent. If such county agricultural extension agent shall not have been elected secretary of such committee, he]. The country agricultural extension agent shall be ex officio a member of the county committee. county agricultural extension agent shall not have the power to vote. In any county in which there is only one local committee the local committee shall also be the county committee.

(3) Provisions applicable to local and county committies.—Special elections for the purpose of filling vacancies not filled by alternate members, occurring at least sixty days prior to the time for holding an annual election, in the membership of a local or county committee shall be held as expeditiously as possible, and

¹ Paragraph (1) set out above provides that the local committee shall select a secretary and may utilize services made available by the county committee for that purpose.

shall be held in the same manner and subject to the same restrictions as annual elections, except that only five days notice of the nominating convention shall be required. The State committee may, if it deems necessary, appoint temporary committee members to serve pending any such special election, or to fill vacancies not filled by alternate members occurring less than sixty days prior to an annual election. County and local committees authorized by this section shall be administratively responsible to the Secretary of Agriculture for the conduct of farm programs assigned to them. The county committee, subject to the general direction and supervision of the State committee, and acting through community committeemen and other personnel, shall be generally responsible for carrying out in the county the programs assigned to it by the Secretary or the Congress. In so doing, the county committee shall employ a county office manager subject to standards and qualifications furnished by the Secre-The county office manager shall serve at the pleasure of the county committee, and subject to the direction and supervision of it, shall execute the policies established by it, be responsible for the day-to-day operations of the county office, and employ the personnel of the county office in accordance with the standards and qualifications

furnished by the State committee.

(4) STATE COMMITTEES.—In each State there shall be a State committee for the State composed of Inot less than I three farmers or [more than] five farmers who are legal residents of the State and who are appointed by the Secretary 1. One member, if the State committee is composed of three farmers, or two members, if the State committee is composed of five farmers, shall be appointed by the Secretary from nominees elected by the members of the county committees at an election to be held on a date or within a period of time fixed by the Secretary which will afford full opportunity for participation therein by all county committee members: Provided. That such date or period of time shall fall between July 1, and December 30 each year. Three nominees shall be so elected if the State committee is composed of three farmers, and six nominees shall be so elected if the State committee is composed of five farmers. A member so appointed from nominees shall take office on the first day of the month next after his appointment and shall serve for twelve months or until a successor has been similarly appointed and qualified. Any member so appointed from nominees shall be subject to removal by the Secretary only for cause. The other members of such committee shall be appointed by, and serve at the pleasure of, the Secretary, one of whom shall be designated as chairman. State director of the Agricultural Extension Service, or his designated alternate, shall be ex officio a member of such State committee, and [. The ex officio members of the county and State committees] shall be in addition to the number of members of such [committees] committee hereinbefore specified.

(5) Removal of local and county committee member.—
The State committee may remove a local or county committee member from office, but only by majority vote after furnishing such member with a statement of the charges against him, advising him of his rights, and giving him an opportunity for a fair hearing at which, if requested by such member, a representative of the Secretary shall be present. The State committee shall cause a transcript of the pro-

ceedings at any such hearing to be made and a copy thereof to be furnished to such member. Pending such hearing the State committee may by majority vote suspend such member, but no such suspension shall exceed sixty days unless such hearing is delayed at the request of such member. Such member may appeal from the decision of the State committee to the Deputy Administrator of the Commodity Stabilization Service, or such other officer or employee of the Department of Agriculture as the Secretary may designate. All pertinent and material evidence may be presented at such appeal.

(6) For the purposes of this subsection, the term "county" shall include any consolidation effectuated by the Secretary by joining any actual county or counties with any adjacent county upon the determination that each such county or counties being joined therewith has less than fifty farms on which farming operations are actively being carried out; and shall include the administrative subdivision of the counties of Otter Tail, Polk, and Saint Louis, in the State of Minnesota, and the county of Pottawattamie, in the State of Iowa, as authorized by the Act of September 2, 1957 (71 Stat. 601).

(7) Regulations.—The Secretary shall make such regulations as are necessary relating to the selection and exercise of the functions of the respective committees, and to the administration,

through **[**such **]** the committees, of such programs. In carrying out the provisions of this section, the Secretary—shall, as far as practicable, protect the interests of tenants and sharecroppers; is authorized to utilize the agricultural extension service and other approved agencies; shall accord such recognition and encouragement to producer-owned and producer-controlled cooperative associations as will be in harmony with the policy toward cooperative associations set forth in existing Acts of Congress and as will tend to promote efficient methods of marketing and distribution; shall not have power to acquire any land or any right or interest therein: shall, in every practicable manner, protect the interests of small producers; and shall in every practical way encourage and provide for soil-conserving and soil-rebuilding practices rather than the growing of soil-depleting crops. Rules and regulations governing payments or grants under this subsection shall be a simple and direct as possible, and, wherever practicable, they shall be classified on two basis: (a) Soil-depleting crops and practices, (b) soil-building crops and practices.

Notwithstanding any other provision of law, in making available conservation materials consisting of seeds, seed inoculants, fertilizers, liming and other soil-conditioning materials, trees, or plants, or in making available soil-conserving or soil-building services, to agricultural producers under this subsection, the Secretary may make payments, in advance of determination of performance by the producers, to persons who fill purchase orders covering approved conservation materials or covering soil-conserving or soil-building services, furnished to producers, or who render services to the Secretary in delivering to producers approved conservation materials, for the carrying out, by the producers, of soil-building or soil-conserving practices approved by the Secretary. The price at which purchase orders for any conservation materials or services are filled may be limited to a fair price fixed in accordance with regulations prescribed by the

Secretary.

Appropriations are hereby authorized for the purchase in advance of the program year for which the appropriation is made of seeds, fertilizers, lime, trees, or any other farming materials or any soilterracing services, and making grants thereof to agricultural producers to aid them in carrying out farming practices approved by the Secretary in programs under this Act; for the reimbursement of any Federal, State, or local government agency for fertilizers, seeds, lime, trees, or other farming materials, or any soil-terracing services, furnished by such agency; and for the payment of all expenses necessary in making such grants, including all or part of the costs incident to the delivery thereof.

AGRICULTURAL ACT OF 1954

SEC. 503. Nothing contained in section 8 (b) of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, or in any other provision of law, shall be construed to authorize the Secretary of Agriculture to impose any limitations upon the number of terms for which members of county or local committees established under such section may be reelected.

AGRICULTURAL ADJUSTMENT ACT OF 1938

Sec. 362. All acreage allotments, and the farm marketing quotas established for farms in a county or other local administrative area shall, in accordance with regulations of the Secretary, be made and kept freely available for public inspection in such county or other local administrative area. An additional copy of this information shall be kept available in the office of the county agricultural extension agent or with the chairman of the local committee. Notice of the farm marketing quota of his farm shall be mailed to the farmer. Notice of the farm acreage allotment established for each farm shown by the records of the county committee to be entitled to such allotment shall insofar as practicable be mailed to the farm operator in sufficient time to be received prior to the date of the referendum.

SEC. 392. (a) The Secretary is authorized and directed to make such expenditures as he deems necessary to carry out the provisions of this Act and sections 7 to 17, inclusive, of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, including personal services and rents in the District of Columbia and elsewhere; traveling expenses; supplies and equipment; lawbooks, books of reference, directories, periodicals, and newspapers; and the preparation and display of exhibits, including such displays at community, county, State, interstate, and international fairs within the United States. Secretary of the Treasury is authorized and directed upon the request of the Secretary to establish one or more separate appropriation accounts into which there shall be transferred from the respective funds available for the purposes of the several Acts, in connection with which personnel or other facilities of the Agricultural Adjustment Administration are utilized, proportionate amounts estimated by the Secretary to be required by the Agricultural Adjustment

Administration for administrative expenses in carrying out or cooperating in carrying out any of the provisions of the respective Acts. (b) In the administration of this title and sections 7 to 17, inclusive, of the Soil Conservation and Domestic Allotment Act, as amended, the aggregate amount expended in any fiscal year, beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1942, for administrative expenses in the District of Columbia, including regional offices, and in the several States (not including the expenses of county and local committees) shall not exceed 3 per centum of the total amount available for such fiscal year for carrying out the purposes of this title and such Act, unless otherwise provided by appropriation or other law. In the administration of section 32 of the Act entitled "An Act to amend the Agricultural Adjustment Act, and for other purposes," approved August 24, 1935 (49 Stat. 774), as amended, and the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended, and those sections of the Agricultural Adjustment Act (of 1933), as amended, which were reenacted and amended by the Agricultural Marketing Agreement Act of 1937, as amended, the aggregate amount expended in any fiscal year, beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1942, for administrative expenses in the District of Columbia, including regional offices, and in the several States (not including the expenses of county and local committees) shall not exceed 4 per centum of the total amount available for such fiscal year for carrying out the purposes of said Acts, unless otherwise provided by appropriation or other law. In the event any administrative expenses of any county or local committee are deducted in any fiscal year, beginning with the fiscal year ending June 30, 1939, from Soil Conservation Act payments, parity payments, or loans, each farmer receiving benefits under such provisions shall be apprised of the amount or percentage deducted from such benefit payment or loan on account of such administrative expenses. The A statement of the names and addresses of the members and employees of any county or local committee, and the amount of such compensation received by each of them, shall be [posted annually in a conspicuous place in the area within which they are employed kept freely available for public inspection in the office of the county committee for a period of five years following the close of the calendar year in which such compensation was received.

